

Advisory Committee on Acoustic Impacts on Marine Mammals

Initial Meeting

February 3-5, 2004

Bethesda Marriott Hotel, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, MD (301.897.9400)

Proposed Agenda

Purpose of this Meeting:

- To develop and agree on the scope of the Committee's efforts and the goal for the process
- To provide a common information base for the Committee to use as it works towards its goal
- To discuss Advisory Committee process and structure and develop mutual expectations among members regarding how they will work together towards a final product

Tuesday, February 3

9:00 – 9:45 Welcome and Introductions

Welcome – *John Reynolds, Chairman, & David Cottingham, Executive Director,*
Marine Mammal Commission

Introduction of Facilitators

Introductions of Committee Members

9:45 – 10:00 Review Agenda and Protocols for this Meeting – *Suzanne Orenstein*

10:00 – 10:45 Review and Discuss Purpose and Goal for Advisory Committee

David Cottingham, Suzanne Orenstein, Members

- Background on development of Committee
- Goal of effort – Report to MMC and then to Congress
- Overview of Committee meetings and tasks
- Role of Committee members

10:45 – 11:00 **BREAK**

11:00 – 12:00 Basics of Sound in Water

Brandon Southall, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Protected Resources

12:00 – 1:00 **LUNCH**

- 1:00 – 4:15** **Sound Sources of Interest or Concern for Marine Mammals**
(with break)
- Key Questions:
1. What activities produce sound, how is it produced and for what purpose(s)?
 2. What are the characteristics of the sounds produced (frequency, loudness, timing, depth, orientation, etc)?
 3. What issues (scientific, policy or other) related to the impacts of sound in the marine environment are most in need of attention currently? In the future?
- 1:10 – 1:40** **Overview of Contributions to Sound in the Marine Environment**
 (20-minute presentation followed by 10 minutes discussion)
John Hildebrand, Marine Mammal Commission & Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- 1:40 – 4:50** **Panel: Uses and Characteristics of Anthropogenic Sound in the Marine Environment** (Each panelist: 15-minute presentation, 20 minutes discussion)
- 1:40 – 2:15 Oil and Gas Exploration and Production
Jim Ray, Shell Global Solutions, & Phil Fontana, Veritas
- 2:15 – 2:50 U.S. Navy Activities – *RADM Steven Tomaszewski, Oceanographer of the Navy*
- 2:50 – 3:05** **BREAK**
- 3:05 – 4:50** **Continue panel: Uses and Characteristics of Anthropogenic Sound in the Marine Environment**
- 3:05 – 3:40 Shipping – *Kathy Metcalf, Chamber of Shipping of America*
- 3:40 – 4:15 Acoustic Methods Used in Research – *David Farmer, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island*
- 4:15 – 4:50 NGO Data and Concerns re: Sound Sources – *Sarah Dolman, Whale & Dolphin Conservation Society*
- 4:50 - 5 :20** **Public Comment**
- 5:20 – 5:30** **Summarize Day One and Look Ahead to Day Two**
- 5:30** **ADJOURN for the day**
- 5:30 – 7:00** **Reception**

Wednesday, February 4

- 9:00 – 9:15** **Opening Remarks and Review Plans for Day Two**
- 9:15 – 10:00** **Marine Mammals, Hearing and Sound** (25-minute presentation, 20 minutes discussion)
Paul Nachtigall, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
- Key questions:
1. Why is sound important to marine mammals?
 2. How do different marine mammals differ in their uses of sound?
 3. What are the basics of marine mammal hearing?
 4. What are the critical components of marine mammals' use of sound for evaluating impacts?

10:00 – 12:15 **Panel: Impacts of Sound on Marine Mammals**
(with break) (Each panelist: 20-minute presentation, 20 minutes discussion)

Key questions for each panelist:

1. What do we know so far, with what level of agreement?
2. What are the key issues for the future, including mitigation?

10:00 – 10:40 Field Observations of Impacts – *Ken Balcomb, Center for Whale Research*

10:40 – 10:55 BREAK

10:55 – 12:15 **Continue panel: Impacts of Sound on Marine Mammals**

10:55 – 11:35 Auditory Impacts – *Ted Cranford, San Diego State University*

11:35 – 12:15 Non-auditory Physical Impacts – *Sam Ridgway, U.S. Navy Marine Mammal Program*

12:15 – 1:15 LUNCH

1:15 – 2:35 **Continue panel: Impacts of Sound on Marine Mammals**

1:15 – 1:55 Behavioral Impacts - *Peter Tyack, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution*

1:55 – 2:35 NGO Evaluations of Specific Impacts – *Naomi Rose, Humane Society of the U.S.*

2:35 – 3:05 Public Comment

3:05 – 3:20 BREAK

3:20 – 4:15 **Small Group Discussions** (*Facilitated*)

Discussion Question:

What would be the most useful and important elements of a synthesis of current knowledge about marine mammals and anthropogenic sound?

4:15 – 5:00 **Small Groups Report to Plenary; Synthesis of Reports**

5:00 **ADJOURN** for the day

Thursday, February 5

8:00 – 8:15 Opening Remarks and Review Plan for Day 3

8:15 – 10:00 Plan for Committee's Future Operations

(with break)

- Review, discuss, and reach agreement on Operating Procedures

10:00 – 10:15 BREAK

10:15 – 12:00 Continue: Plan for Committee's Future Operations

- Establish Subcommittee for Synthesis of Existing Knowledge for discussion at 3rd Plenary Meeting
 - Charge to the Subcommittee
 - Membership of Subcommittee
 - Schedule
- Plan for 2nd Plenary Meeting
- Looking ahead: International workshop and 3rd Plenary Meeting

12:00 – 1:00 LUNCH

1:00 – 4:00 Panel: Overview of Relevant Government Programs

(with break)

(Each panelist: 10-minute presentation, 10 minutes Questions and Answers)

Key questions:

1. What are the roles and responsibilities for marine mammals within each agency?
2. How does each agency develop and use scientific information?
3. What are the important issues agencies face in fulfilling their responsibilities currently? In the future?

1:00 – 1:20 Marine Mammal Commission – *Michael Gosliner*

1:20 – 1:40 NOAA Fisheries – *Laurie Allen*

1:40 – 2:00 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – *Marty Kodis*

2:00 – 2:20 NGO Role in the Regulatory Process – *Joel Reynolds, NRDC*

2:20 – 3:00 BREAK

3:00 – 3:20 Minerals Management Service – *Dick Wildermann*

3:20 – 3:40 National Science Foundation – *James Yoder*

3:40 – 4:00 U.S. Navy – *RADM Steven Tomaszewski*

4:00 – 4:20 California Coastal Commission – *Sara Wan*

4:20 – 4:45 Summarize Meeting and Next Steps

4:45 ADJOURN